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Nashville's Sustainability Outlet

Interview with John Sherman, Chair, Davidson County Regional Solid Waste Board; co-owner, pfc social impact advisors, llc (April 2020)

Q: What are you are working on as part of the Mayor's Sustainability Advisory Committee?

A: Reducing the carbon footprint of our solid waste stream (residential and commercial) through education and public policies that: a) minimize the amount of waste we generate; b) compost our food, yard, and other organic waste; c) reuse materials that would otherwise be landfilled; and, d) recycle as much as what is left.

Q: How/ why did you become passionate about sustainability?

A: Always has been a passion. Fueled by love nature and growing realization that unsustainability does not affect all of us the same. Rural, low-income communities, and communities of color often are disproportionately impacted by the result of unsustainable practices such as landfills.

Q: What is your top sustainability tip for others?

A: Stop consuming so much stuff. Buy and eat locally. Compost!

Q: What is your vision for a more sustainable Nashville?

A: Livable wages paid to all residents; sufficient affordable housing in all neighborhoods; implementation of all Mayor's Sustainability Advisory Committee; More public transportation; less single car usage; more bike lanes; all public and private structures LEED-certified or in LEED compliance; no waste going to a landfill.

Q: How are you celebrating the 50th anniversary of Earth Day?

A: Quietly in my garden using my compost from my bin. Toasting and giving thanks to all the fearless global citizens working to realize the UN Sustainable Development Goals.